



## BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

October 8, 2012

5:30 p.m., 10th Floor Conference Room  
2 Civic Center Plaza, El Paso, TX

### MINUTES

Members Present: 7

David Turner, James Tolbert, Theresa Welch Fordham, Ralph Cloud, Deanna De La Cruz, Alisa Jorgensen, Jennifer Barr-Ardovino

Members Absent: Frederick Caldwell

Member Vacancies: 1

Staff Present: Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, Paula Powell, Sports Manager, Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant

1. Agenda Item #1. Meeting Called to Order  
Dave Turner, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Agenda Item #2. Approval of Minutes: September 10, 2012  
Motion by James Tolbert to approve minutes as written. Second by Alisa Jorgensen. Motion carried (unanimous).
3. Agenda Item #3. Call to the Public (for items not on the agenda)  
None
4. Agenda Item #4. Parks and Recreation Calendar and Newsletter  
Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, highlighted the calendar and newsletter included in the agenda packet. She reported on the after school program, Linda Daw Hudson Park ribbon cutting ceremony and park naming recommendations on City Council October 23, 2012.
5. Agenda Item #5. Discussion and Action: Little Free Library – Lisa Lopez, El Paso Independent School District Librarian.

Ms. Lisa Lopez, El Paso Independent School District Librarian at Zavala Elementary, explained the concept of the Little Free Library (LFL); take a book, give a book. The non profit organization is a literacy initiative based on free book exchanges using boxes resembling bird houses. Each library has stewards that monitor them, promoting community involvement.

The Board viewed the website presentation and a short news clip “Thinking Inside the Box.” A Google Map is provided to locate registered LFLs. El Paso sites include Zavala Elementary and in Kern Place. Woodworkers Club of El Paso are building Little Free Library receptacles.

Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, suggested utilizing the Park Partner Agreement as a mechanism for adopting the Free Library and stewards/neighborhood associations.

Motion by James Tolbert to forward a recommendation to City Council that Little Free Libraries may be installed in any City of El Paso parks and recreation facility, on a case by case basis, as approved by the Parks and Recreation Director and sponsored by neighborhood associations, recreation or senior center or other responsible party. Second by Jennifer Barr-Ardovino. Motion carried (unanimous).

6. Agenda Item #6. Presentation: Sports Update – Automated Lighting Controls, Field Overseeding, and Programs.

Paula Powell, Sports Manager, presented a powerpoint presentation on the 2012 Overseeding and Control Link Projects. She provided before and after photographs and distributed the 2012 Winter Over Seed Schedule. (Handout)

*Ralph Cloud departed 6:10 p.m.*

Paula explained the Control Link lighting system, a reliable cost effective system to control, monitor and manage athletic facility lighting which can be controlled from office, home and phone (mobile). The web-based scheduling program reduces staff travel time and energy waste.

*James Tolbert departed 6:12 p.m.*

Discussion ensued on new technology and automation for locks.

7. Agenda Item #7. Discussion and Action: Subcommittee Assignments (as needed)  
None

8. Agenda Item #8. Discussion: Identify Items for Future Agendas

- Master Plan Update

9. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant